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August 8, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 79 2 p.m. 84
Humidity 89 73

August 9, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 83 2 p.m. 83
Humidity 89 "

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1917.

四月九日人香港

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Two More Towns Evacuated. London, August 8.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, the *Novostroyka* says the Russians have evacuated the towns of Kamenetzpolotsk and Prokutoff.

The Enemy's Object.

London, August 8.

The Times correspondent at the Headquarters of the Russian Seventh Army, wiring on August 2, says that the immediate objective of the enemy is apparently a bold attempt to cut off the troops remaining in the Carpathians and Rumania; hence they are striking between Kamienetzpolotsk and Czernowitz, where the Russians are unable to continue the advance. General Korniloff, interviewed, said that the second phase of the war was only just beginning. It was impossible for Russia to conclude a separate peace, which would convert her into a German Colony. The new Government must invite the Allies to re-organise the railways for warfare, and Anglo-French officers must help in the drilling of the ten million Russians who had enrolled but who were imperfectly trained.

German Claims.

London, August 8.

A German official wireless message states:—The Austro-Hungarians stormed and occupied several summits in the wooded Carpathians. We extended our successes to the north of Focasani after bitter fighting. The Russo-Rumanian counter-attacks proved futile.

Russians Resume Offensive.

London, August 8.

A Russian official wireless message states:—In the region of the confluence of the Zbrucz we took the offensive and captured the villages of Barychkovo and Wygoda, as well as heights to the west of the last-named. We took 300 prisoners. We repulsed attacks to the north-west of the Sorethi. The enemy occupied two heights to the west of Dzecznik and south-west of Sotchi. We retired eastward on both sides of the Kimpolung road. The enemy pressed us back to the north of Biskegetchi.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

The New Government Meets.

London, August 8.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that at the first meeting of the new Government, V. Kerensky, who presided, said that attention must be concentrated on national defence and organisation at the rear.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

Another British Raid.

London, August 8.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We raided last night near Lombartzyde. The enemy's artillery is active east and north of Ypres, particularly in the neighbourhoods of Westhoek and the Ypres-Staden Railways.

Marked Artillery Activity.

London, August 8.

A French communiqué states:—There was most marked reciprocal artillery activity last evening on most of the Aisne front. Our forces repulsed enemy detachments attempting to approach our lines to the east of Vaux Aillon and west of the California plateau.

GERMANS ADMIT STRONG ALLIED ATTACKS.

London, August 8.

A German official wireless message states:—The English, after drumfire, advanced from Nieuport to the north and north-east, but were driven back after hand-to-hand fighting. We repulsed strong enemy attacks in the neighbourhood of Bixschoot and penetrated Bois des Cailleres.

British Aerial Bombing.

London, August 8.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—In heavy rain, the French gained ground north-west of Bixschoot. We repulsed raiders north of Boes on the neighbourhood of Oppy. There is great activity by the enemy artillery east of Ypres. Despite the weather, our aeroplanes bombed an ammunition depot and also rail-tracks and sidings, as well as trains, forty miles behind the German lines. There was much damage and a derailed train blew up. Another British aeroplane is missing.

Artillery Actions.

London, August 8.

A French communiqué states:—There are some fairly violent artillery actions in the region of Pantheon, right of the Meuse, Cailleres Wood and Douaumont.

THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE.

What Will British Labour Do?

London, August 8.

The greatest interest is being taken in the National Labour Conference, to take place on August 10, which is to decide whether delegates will be sent to Stockholm. Opinion in the party is sharply divided, and important preliminary meetings have been necessary in order to reach decisions regarding the course to be adopted by the representative bodies attending the Conference. It is stated that the Miners' Federation will hear a personal explanation by Mr. Arthur Henderson before deciding how its 600,000 votes are cast. The division of opinion is reflected in the Press, one section denouncing the idea of British intercourse with enemy Socialists during the war, and the other section dwelling on the danger of estranging Russia if the delegates do not go, pointing out that in such an event the irreconcileable Russians would be an easy prey to the German Socialists.

THE IRISH CONVENTION.

London, August 8.

The Press Bureau says that at the Irish Convention today Sir Horace Plunkett suggested a procedure whereby the existing schemes of the Government of Ireland be examined and presented for the Convention's consideration. The Convention decided to appoint a special committee to consult the Chairman regarding general

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LIBERATION OF SERBIA.

Britain to Stand Firm to the End.

London, August 8.

Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at the Serbian-Society luncheon at the Savoy Hotel, said:—We owe more to M. Pasitch, the Serbian Premier, and M. Venizelos than we can possibly reveal at present. Serbia, which has been covered by the dirt of Turkish barbarism, is about to be cleansed and will yet appear fresh and wonderful. The first condition of peace is complete restoration without reservation, however long the war may last. British honour is involved in seeing that Serbia is freed. Serbia and Belgium are the guardians of the gates, and bravely have they defended them. The Serbian troops, although overwhelmed, have never been disheartened and are still guarding the gate. We extend again the hand of friendship to Serbia. We will go through the war together to the end.

In the course of a speech, Lord Robert Cecil declared that he was convinced that there was no inconsistency between the aims of Italy and Serbia.

M. Pasitch, whom Lord Robert Cecil described as the Grand Old Man of Serbia, after expressing his thanks for what Britain had done for small nations, said that Germany now spoke of an honourable peace. Such a peace could only be secured if the people under Austro-German rule were set free. If France gets back Alsace-Lorraine, if the Italians accomplish a unity with their still unredeemed brethren, if the unity of the Serbs, Greeks and Slovines is achieved, if the Czechs and Slovaks are united and independent, and if the Polish and Ruthenian questions are solved, then only will an honorable peace be secured. (Cheers.)

GERMAN SOCIALISTS' DEMAND.

A Popular Government Wanted.

London, August 8.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, it is reported that Herr Scheidemann, in a speech to a meeting of six thousand people at Mannheim, demanded, in the interests of peace, a speedy substitution for the present Government of a Government really representing the people's will.

GERMANY'S LATEST ENEMY.

London, August 8.

Reuter's correspondent at Washington says that Liberia has declared war on Germany.

GERMAN AIRMAN CAUGHT.

London, August 8.

Reuter's correspondent at Flushing says that a German seaplane visited a Dutch fishing boat. One airman came aboard and ordered the boat to Zaerbrugge, but a Dutch patrol boat came up and took the vessel to Flushing. The German airman has been interned.

GREEK PARLIAMENT MEETS.

London, August 8.

Reuter's correspondent at Athens states that at the first sitting of the Venizelist Parliament of May 31, 1915, M. Venizelos, replying to a petition by the Deputies of Northern Epirus for admission into the Chamber, said that the union of Epirus and the Motherland in the near future was a foregone conclusion.

SIR ALFRED KEOGH RESIGNS.

London, August 8.

The *Daily News* says that Surgeon General Sir Alfred Keogh has resigned in consequence of attacks on the Army Medical Service, of which he was Director.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

London, August 8.

It is stated that a nine-penny loaf will be able to be purchased from August 15.

A THOUSAND AEROPLANES ANNUALLY.

London, August 8.

According to Reuter's correspondent at New York, the Government has ordered the construction of an aircraft factory at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia. The cost will be a million dollars, it is to be completed in a hundred days, and is to employ two thousand workers. It is expected to produce a thousand small aeroplanes annually.

CONTROL OF U.S. EXPORTS.

London, August 8.

Reuter's correspondent at New York states that the Exports Council recommends that lumber, sugar and cotton should be placed on the list for good, for which export licenses are required. It desires especially to control shipments of cotton, of which Germany is in desperate need.

NEW ZEALAND'S DETERMINATION.

London, August 8.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Wellington, Parliament has passed a resolution to carry on the war until Germany is vanquished. It paid a tribute to the gallantry and courage of New Zealanders fighting. The members sang the National Anthem.

FRESH TROUBLES IN SPAIN.

London, August 8.

There is a recurrence of trouble in Spain. It transpires that there has been a railway strike, regarding which the Council of Ministers considered measures to prevent an interruption of traffic and sabotage. The Council also agreed to increase the press

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

SOLDIERS AND POLITICS.

Regulations to be Strictly Enforced.

London, August 8.

In the House of Commons, Mr. MacPherson stated that the War Cabinet had decided that Paragraph 401 of the King's Regulations, forbidding soldiers to participate in politics, should be strictly and impartially enforced, and that soldiers should not be permitted to join soldiers' and Workmen's Councils.

ITALIAN SHIPPING RETURNS.

London, August 8.

Reuter's correspondent at Rome states that for the week ending August 5 the arrivals of vessels numbered 437 and the sailings 412. The sinkings were two steamers and one small sailing vessel.

BIG HOUSING SCHEME AT HOME.

London, August 8.

A Departmental Committee appointed by the Government is meeting to-morrow to consider the provision on an extensive scale of houses for the working classes. The Committee on Labour Problems after the War reported that a million houses, costing \$250,000,000, must be built. The Local Government Board admits that the present shortage is at least half-a-million houses. A notable instance is the immediate need for housing for 100,000 workers at Glasgow, Rosyth and Dundee. It is certain that in the near future the Government will have approved of schemes for the building of at least half-a-million houses within the first year or two after the war. It has already promised considerable financial assistance also to ensure that the rentals shall not exceed the pre-war basis.

A WEEK OF SUBMARINISM.

London, August 8.

The Admiralty announces that the arrivals of vessels for the past week totalled 2,873 and the sailings 2,798. Twenty-one vessels over and two under 1,600 tons were sunk. Thirteen were unsuccessfully attacked.

SERIOUS STRIKES IN AUSTRALIA.

London, August 8.

Twenty thousand railwaymen and tramwaymen in New South Wales have struck, objecting to the new system of supervision. They have rejected the Government's offer of a conference in connection with the matter provided work be resumed immediately. The south coast collieries have been rendered idle owing to lack of transport. The Government has intimated to the strikers that they will lose their seniority unless they resume work by Friday, when the public will be asked to volunteer assistance.

Melbourne tramwaymen and 12,000 railwaymen in Queensland have also struck, the latter demanding a retrospective increase of pay.

KING ALFONSO'S THOUGHT FOR THE WOUNDED.

London, August 8.

It is understood that the suggestion that Spanish officers should be present on hospital ships emanated from King Alfonso, who, throughout the war, has been conspicuously solicitous for the wounded.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

ARE HONOURS PURCHASED?

London, Aug. 7.

In the House of Lords, Lord Selborne drew attention to the wise belief that honours are sometimes awarded unjustly, and suggested that whenever an honour is conferred on anyone except Royalty, members of the naval, military and civil services, reasons for them should be attached; and, secondly, that the Prime Minister should assure the Sovereign that no payment or expectation of payment was in any way associated with the recommendation. Lord Selborne said that both political parties were tared with the same brush.

It was admitted that some of the recent honours had given rise to strong exception but the suggestion was impracticable. Lord Curzon said honours had been much democratized recently and this was one of the best safeguards against abuse. The discussion then dropped.

RUSSIAN CABINET RECONSTRUCTION.

London, Aug. 8.

It is noteworthy that all five parties, including the Cadets, who participated in the Conference of August 3 and who passed a vote of confidence in M. Kerensky, are included in the National Cabinet. The following are the outstanding appointments. M. Savinkov, Assistant War Minister, was prominent at the front in promoting the offensive and in combating the demoralisation of the army. M. Lebedev, Assistant Minister of Marine, was a lieutenant in the French army with previous experience in the Ministry of Marine. M. Nekrasoff and M. Tereshchenko, are the only two, excepting M. Kerensky, who belonged to the original Provisional Government. The former was for nine years on the Duma Budget Committee. M. Tereshchenko declined office but promised the Cabinet all assistance. M. Avakianoff, the Minister of the Interior, is the President of the Peasants' Delegates. The Cabinet includes four Cadets.

ENSURING BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLY.

London, Aug. 7.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Prothero stated that about 1,000,000 acres had been added to the land under corn and potato. Assuming that 6,000,000 tons were under essential grains, sufficient tonnage had been fitted to bring to Britain the entire supply of last year's American corn. This meant security for manufacturing materials to the value of £32,000,000 annually, and between £2,000,000 and £2,000,000 for seed.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph")

A GENERAL'S DEATH.

London, Aug. 7.

The death is announced of Major General Sir George Pretyman, K.O.M.C.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, Aug. 8.

NOTICES.

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will give you certain, prompt relief, and
ensure a good night's rest! This, the
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this Colony for ten years past.
He has a good method of teaching Europeans
to pass Chinese examinations, and is possessed
of a large stock of Chinese books.
He has also a good knowledge of Medicine
and Herbs, and is a good teacher of
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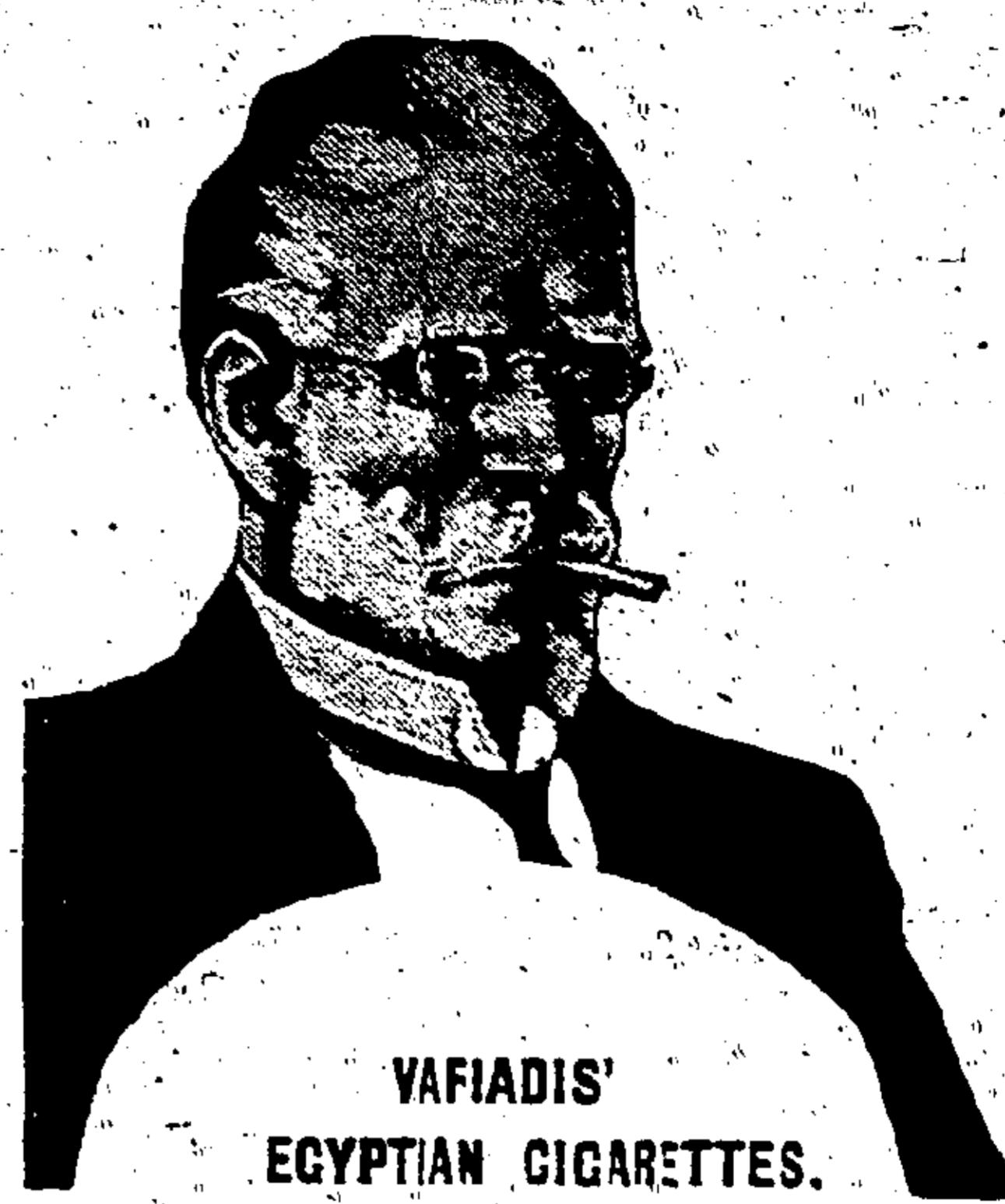
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"	10	.50
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"	100	2.40
"	50	1.20

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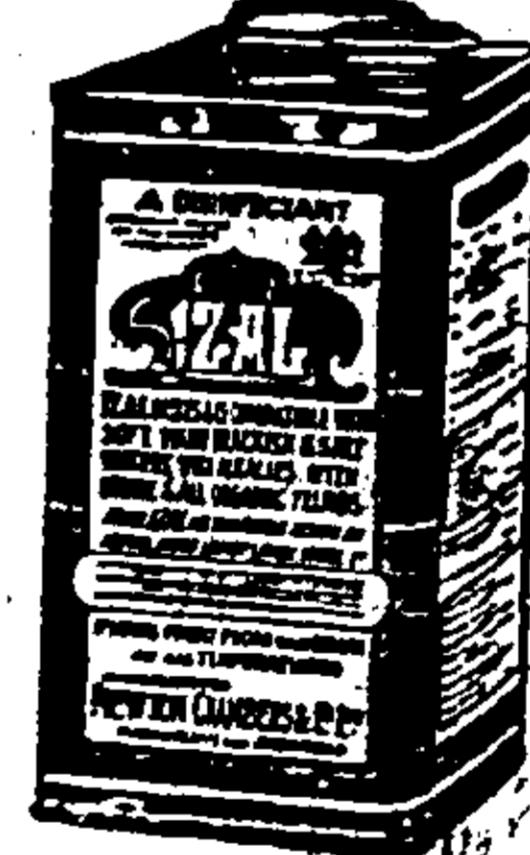
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GENERAL NEWS.

An Easy-Going "Special."
A special policeman employed
to search workers for matches in
an explosives factory, was fined,
at a West Wales Court, for smoking
while on duty.Escaped German Prisoners.
Two German prisoners of war,
who escaped on a recent Monday
afternoon from the Sandhoe
Military Camp, Durham, were re-
captured on the following Tues-
day night."Sons of the Clergy."
The annual Festival of the Sons
of the Clergy was held at St. Paul's
recently, the Lord Mayor and
Sheriff attending in state. The
Archbishop of Canterbury was
also present.Norway's Defence Expenditure.
The Norwegian Council of State
will ask the Storting for vote of
credit of \$666,666 to cover ex-
penditure for the defence of
Norway's neutrality between
February 1 and July 30.In Expectation of Peace.
A recent message from Batavia
to the Amsterdam Telegraph
announces that German firms
there are buying enormous supplies
of copra, "in expectation of a
speedy peace favourable to
Germany."A Motor Scooter.
Frank Whiteley, a director of
Messrs. William Whiteley and
Co. (Limited), Piccadilly,
Buckingham gate, was fined £5 at
West London Police Court for
exceeding the speed limit while
motoring on Sunday. It was
stated that there were 11 previous
convictions against the defendant
for similar offences.A Railway Roll of Honour.
The 13th edition of the London,
Brighton, and South Coast Rail-
way Roll of Honour shows that
4,276 men, or 20 per cent. of the
total number employed in pre-
war days, have enlisted, of whom
238 have been killed. Distinctions
have been awarded to 14 members
of the staff, and the company
have issued an illuminated list
showing the various ribbons and
decorations.Combining the Rejected.
Mr. Macpherson states in Parlia-
mentary Papers that he is aware
that attempts were recently made
to stir up dissatisfaction with the
administration of the Review of
Exceptions Act.—In some local-
ities the percentage of "A" men
has been low. In one district,
notorious for fraudulent rejection
in the past, the percentage has
been as high as 25 per cent. on the
examinations conducted up
to June 1. All the suspected
cases were called first in that area,
and the result has been fully to
substantiate the worst fears of
the authorities. The Boards
conducting those examinations
were composed entirely of civilian
doctors, with Territorial or tempor-
arily commissioned or retired
presidents, and their work has
been reported as a model of care-
ful examination.Aircraft and Munitions.
Mechanics in the Royal Flying
Corps, to the number of some 500
a week, are now attending special
classes arranged by the Ministry
of Munitions in 19 centres for
instruction in skilled processes of
aircraft production. The training
and supply of labour for such
work has also been extended by
the establishment of official in-
structional factories in London,
Manchester, Birmingham, and
Bristol. The results have been
markedly encouraging, and the
Air Board, for which the work is
chiefly undertaken, states that
"if it had not been for this effort
the supply of aeroplanes and aero
engines would have been very
seriously retarded, if not altogether
held up." This intensive
training is but part of a general
scheme of free instruction in
munition making undertaken by
the Ministry of Munitions in con-
junction with education authori-
ties. Sixty training schools are
now open in London and in
various provincial centres in Eng-
land and Scotland, where over
32,000 students have already
qualified for work in munition
factories. Of these a large pro-
portion are women. At several
centres discharged soldiers are
now being trained. Maintenance
is allowed to those not while
training, which in the case of
officers may amount to £1 a week.

GENERAL NEWS.

NOTICES.

American Ambulances for The War.

Thousands of American ambulances are to be sent to Russia with as many doctors and nurses as can be spared. Rumania is also to be aided.

Old "Masters" Burned.

A fire at Dongen (North Brabant) has destroyed the Church of St. Lawrence. The loss is said to include a picture of St. Lawrence by Rubens and another picture by Vandek.

Bank of China.

A partial redemption of notes will be resumed by the Bank of China on and from the 1st of next month, says the *Peking Gazette*. The Bank is ready with a sum of \$20,000 for the daily redemption of its notes, which will be done through the Police.

Recent Casualties.

The *Matin* correspondent with the British Headquarters states that at Wytschaete the British casualties were 8,000, while the German losses were 30,000 to 40,000. He adds that the light batteries of a single British division fired 170,000 shells while the heavy batteries fired 80,000 in one sector alone.

Australia's War Bill.

Mr. Hughes, in inaugurating the war savings campaign in Melbourne, said that Australia with a population of five millions was spending \$30,000,000 annually on the war alone. The people at the recent election showed a determination to spend all they had rather than yield an inch in the great struggle for liberty, and more money must be raised.

"In Their Own Coin."

It is asserted that as a result of air reconnaissances 72 German batteries were silenced one day recently. Correspondents state that one of the new British weapons, called "the oilcan," or "boiling oil," threw a considerable distance projectiles containing highly inflammable matter which bursts on concussion, scattering fire widely. Prisoners state that they spread terror and did great harm.

Mr. Bryan Endorses Food Bill.

When passing through Washington on June 21, Mr. William J. Bryan added his endorsement to the administration food bill in this statement: "A Government that can commandeer the lives of its young men and call for the money of its old men should have power to protect the whole from the greed of an unpatriotic few. I am not afraid to trust the President with the powers which the food administration bill proposes to confer. He acts in daylight and without a selfish interest. No President would abuse such a power."

German Duplicity.

The correspondent of the *Petit Parisien* on the British front states that the German commanders throughout knew that defeat was certain at Messines and the chief pre-occupation was to save the guns without alarming the infantry. The latter were fooled to the end, and the generals actually arranged a comedy of false signals for the artillery, to which there was no response, the guns really being turned to the rear. This explains why it was necessary to separate the prisoners in cages. One exasperated Teuton tried to catch another by the throat, each accusing the other of the worst treachery.

A Bequest Refused.

It is interesting to note that the Council of the Senate of Cambridge University have refused a bequest which contained a racial discrimination. Mrs. Louisa Logie left £1,000 to the University for a prize or scholarship for the advancement of teaching Arabic. One of the conditions was that it should be used for the benefit of graduates of the University born in the United Kingdom and not being Jews. The Council, while appreciating the good will to the University implied by the benefaction, stated that it does not feel justified in recommending the Senate to accept and administer a bequest under the conditions attached in this case, and have accordingly recommended that the bequest be declined. Times have changed since it was impossible for a man to graduate at the University unless he submitted to a religious test.

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NEW SUGAR MILLS FOR CUBA.

Railway and Wharf Construction Also Coming.

New sugar mills will be constructed in Cuba in the coming season and railways will be extended, according to Mr. D. E. Casey, commercial agent in charge of the local office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, who said that the United States was the logical market for the supplies which would be needed. The necessary information as to materials and machinery used in the development of Cuba can be obtained in a new report of the Bureau, entitled, "Markets for Construction Material and Machinery in Cuba."

"A number of new sugar mills are projected for the season soon to begin, and railway extension and construction is being planned on a considerable scale," said Mr. Casey. "The heavy traffic movement of both sugar and general merchandise

will render necessary a great development of wharf facilities, and the need for greater warehouse space and other port improvements is apparent. Modern hotel buildings are already being planned and sites acquired in order to meet the demands of the increasing tourist traffic. Many other phases of engineering activities are manifest in all parts of the island."

"The favourable geographical position of the United States makes it the logical market for the large quantities of supplies that will be needed for this work, furthermore, American manufacturers have had many advantages during the past two years to increase the sale of standard materials and machinery that had previously been imported into Cuba from Europe in large quantities. The development of the island since the military occupation by the United States has been due, to a large extent, to Americans, but this attention should be followed by a constant solicitude for the trade, which logically belongs to the United States."

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APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

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Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

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FIRST-CLASS PRESERVES, JAMS
AND SOY MANUFACTURERS.

Factory at Yau Ma Tei,
OFFICE: No. 36, Des Vœux Road, W.
Telephone No. 177 & X. 12.

WE are the leading Manufacturers in this class of Goods. Our Fruit & Jam are all fresh and of the first quality. Our Syrup is prepared from the best quality of Sugar. We give our special attention to the business and sanitary arrangements.

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Boots, Shoes and Leather,
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Sundries, China, Earthenware and
Glassware, Cycles, Motor Cars and
Accessories, Drapery, Millinery and Piece
Goods, Fancy Goods and Perfumery,
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Metals, Jewellery, Plates and Watches,
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Provisions and Oilmen's Stores,
etc., etc.

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PLUS COLONELS :--

MESH MARKING
27 DWTS.

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CRESCENT MARKING
HEAVY AND FLOATING.

GLORY DIMPLES :--

FULL SIZE
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QUEEN'S
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FANS

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STOCK.

FIXED AND OSCILLATING
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NEW STOCKS OF 8" OSCILLATING DESK
FANS WHICH CAN BE USED IN PLACE
OF A 25 C.P. LAMP WITHOUT TAKING
ANY EXTRA CURRENT FROM THE
ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY.

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Any European, Non-Asiatic or
Indian desiring to leave the
Colony should apply in person
at the Central Police Station
between the hours of 9 a.m. to
1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

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tion papers.

All persons with certain excep-
tions who remain in the
Colony for more than 7 days are
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under the REGISTRATION OF
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Forms of Registration giving the
particulars required may be
obtained at the G. P. O. and at
all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-com-
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NOTICES.

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Over 2,000,000 now installed in
shops, public buildings, theatres, houses,
ships, pleasure boats, motor boats and
motor cycles.

STAINLESS METAL TUBE CON-

TAINING DRY POWDER, MORE
GRIFF & IRON ACID, WILL NOT
DAMGE PAINTING, FABRIC,
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THE NEW PRACTICAL INSTRUMENT
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ENVELOPE FOR FREE, SICKLE TO DAY, 1000.

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OLD
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E
QUALITY.**

25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Telephone No. 616.

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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C. 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONG KONG, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1917.

THE BRITISH SECOND CHAMBER.

It would appear from a report that is to hand, and which we publish in another part of this issue, that it may not be long before we find ourselves in the midst of a controversy which, previous to the war, caused very considerable and general interest. We refer to the heart-burning subject regarding the status of the House of Lords. Recently in the Upper Chamber, Lord Barnham brought the matter to the notice of his fellow-members of the "gilded Chamber," and several of the points he raised apparently met with the approval of his auditors. They also elicited a statement from Earl Curzon, who, as Lord President of the Council, had the unique experience, for Conservative members, of speaking officially for a Liberal measure, and one which at one time was viewed with extreme distaste by every good Tory and Conservative in the land. The Marquis of Crewe likewise spoke, and very appropriately so, as he was a member of the Asquith Administration when the Parliament Bill became law. The Earl of Selborne and the Marquis of Lansdowne also expressed their views.

It will be remembered that in the preamble to the Parliament Act it is stated: "It is intended to substitute for the House of Lords, as it at present exists, a Second Chamber constituted on a popular instead of an hereditary basis." Otherwise, the measure aimed at "limiting and defining the powers of the new second Chamber." The plan of Mr. Asquith's Government for carrying out the preamble were understood to have matured, and doubtless but for the war a great deal more would have been heard of this important and controversial subject. The continuance of the war, however, has naturally caused the matter to be in abeyance, and probably the present Government will be equally as averse as its immediate predecessors to bringing forward a question which even to-day is likely to bristle with difficulties. Judging, however, by Lord Barnham's speech and the speeches of the other noble Lords above referred to, the House of Lords now believes the time opportune for some statement to be made, as according to Lord Barnham, "it is long overdue." The House of Lords, his Lordship pointedly observed, "was existing under the black pall of the Parliament Act." "They were," he added, "stamped with a badge of inferiority to every other second Chamber of the world." We are of opinion that such view is widely held regarding the House of Lords, but, for all that, one can easily understand why noble Lords wish their House to bear at least as dignified position as any other similar assembly. In the minds of all unprejudiced persons it certainly does so, as to-day it fulfils its function as ably as might reasonably be expected, and with its wonted dignity. Of course, while the Parliament Act is still in operation, and there seems small reason for concluding that it will be repealed—the powers of the House of Lords are strictly limited, though not to the extent stated by Lord Barnham, who remarked that "there was a mark of utility about all their proceedings." Earl Curzon, after referring to "the extreme importance of the matter," spoke of the unfulfilled pledge given by Mr. Asquith at the time of the passing of the Parliament Act, to the effect that it "ought either to be accompanied or followed at an early date by a measure of reconstitution of the House of Lords."

As we have remarked, the war is doubtless the chief reason for the matter being held so long in abeyance. It is probable, however, particularly as it has now been brought so prominently before the public eye, that it will occupy the Government's attention before long. In fact, Earl Curzon stated that the Government would proceed with as much promptitude as it could, and when its proposals were further advanced the House would be entitled to a full statement. It may or may not be wise to take this statement at its face value, but whether or not the Government, in these critical days, is likely to devote much time to so controversial a subject as the status of the House of Lords, the fact remains that the Imperial Parliament would be greatly strengthened by having its Second Chamber placed on a more satisfactory footing than it has been since the passing of the Parliament Bill so very greatly curtailed its powers. As time passes, there is certain to be more need than ever for such a step to be taken, and in connection with the passage of a piece of legislation that is likely to prove of more than usual importance to the Empire, it is certainly desirable that the House of Lords, in its original capacity as a Revising Chamber, should once again have power to fulfil its functions properly.

Our Water Supply.

The abnormally wet summer which Hongkong has been experiencing has removed all possibility of a water famine, as the return just issued by the Water Authority clearly shows.

Though the Kowloon reservoir had, prior to the past month, got rid of France's declaration of war on Austria and of the German

DAY BY DAY.

THE FITTEST PLACE WHERE MAN CAN DIE IS WHERE HE DIES FOR MAN.—M. J. Barry.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the third anniversary of the entry into Liege.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar was 2s. 8d./1s. The closing rate filled, the total storage in millions of gallons being 1,279, as against

2s. 8d./1s. The closing rate

will be found on Page 1.

The Council Meeting.

The meeting of the Legislative Council which was due to be held for July, this means that the Hongkong reservoirs have water enough to last for seven months, up for second reading, has been

even if no further rain falls, postponed until Thursday next.

Field Glass Fund.

Two binoculars and two telescopes from "Anonymous" are now to be added to the list of glasses received for forwarding to the Manager of the Lucy Roberts' Field Glass Fund. The total now

stands:—One stand telescope, twenty hand telescopes, fifty-nine binoculars and donations of \$150.

A Clan Feud.

Mr. Mattingley appeared on behalf of two men out of three in a case of assault before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning. Mr. Mattingley

said he would have to go into the matter as the trouble had been going on for some time. He thought it was a clan feud. One man who was wanted as a witness was in hospital. A day was fixed for the hearing of the case.

Coolie's Excuse.

"These things were lying near a boiler in which I was working, and the watchmen picked them up and accused me of stealing them," was the excuse put forward by a man charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with stealing a number of tools from Taikoo Dock. A watchman said he saw defendant beat some copper piping and cut it into

small pieces. The case was adjourned.

Case Withdrawn.

A European named T. Leach, Chief Engineer of the s.s. On Lee, was charged before Mr. J. A. Dyer Bell, at the Police Court

this morning, with assaulting a Chinese steward aboard the ship

on August 2. Mr. G. R. Haywood

effect likely to occur as the result of such participation is that while the political situation will remain unaffected, the efficiency and the discipline of the Army is likely to be very unpleasantly impaired.

When soldiers take part, even

indirectly, in politics, was un-

pleasantly exemplified during the

Ulster crisis shortly before the outbreak of the war. Such a state of affairs as then arose was one

that did not reflect much credit

upon the officers who were foolish

enough to allow their political

predilections to influence their

obvious duty. And as for any

British soldier allowing himself

to be persuaded to join so-called

Soldiers' and Workmen's Councils

the idea is so preposterous that it

cannot be tolerated. The only

effect likely to occur as the result

of such participation is that while

the political situation will remain

unaffected, the efficiency and the

discipline of the Army is likely

to be very unpleasantly impaired.

All sensible persons will readily

agree that the War Cabinet can

not too strongly enforce the

regulation in question.

IMPORTANT MANILA CASE.

German Masses Dissatisfied.

The statement made by Herr Scheidemann, the well-known German Socialist leader, to the effect that "in the interests of peace" speed substitution should

be made for the present German

Government that shall really represent the people's

will, may, we believe, be taken as

the first striking note of opposition

to the Governmental changes that

have followed the appointment of

the new Chancellor. These

changes are not in accordance with

the promises made subsequent to the

recent agitation in the Reichstag,

and none know better than the

German Socialists, who are in

close touch with the masses, how

bad must be a continuance of

the war for them and how inevi-

table such continuance is so long

as the German bureaucracy per-

sists. That in the name of six

thousand people such a demand

would be made so soon after

the announcement of the com-

position of the new Govern-

ment, seems to point to a more

hopeful state of affairs ultimately

being realized in Germany, whose

people, politically, are hundreds

of years behind the people of

England, France, the United

States, Italy, or even Russia.

Germany's salvation depends

on her ability to raise a Cromwell

and an army of "Ironides" to

cope with the crazy dynasty that

is fast destroying all that is best

in her civilization.

Big Price for Delft Ware.

An unusually fine pair of Delft

ware dishes realized 1,750 guineas

at Messrs. Christie's.

MASONIC BICENTENARY.

The Record of the English Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of English Freemasons recently celebrated

the 200th anniversary of its foundation. On June 24, 1717,

the members of four London

Lodges, three of which are still

in existence, met at an alehouse

in St. Paul's Churchyard, known

as "The Goose and Gridiron,"

which has long since disappeared,

for the purpose of constituting a

Grand Lodge and choosing a

Grand Master to be at their head.

The anniversary of the foundation of Freemasonry in England can never be celebrated, because the date of its birth is unknown.

There are documents in existence which prove that Freemasonry was practised in this country at least four centuries earlier than the occasion now being celebrated.

There is still preserved the original record of the initiation into the craft of Sir Robert Moray, one of the founders and the first President of the Royal Society, at

Mendelssohn, all the performers doing extremely well. This was one of the best things of the evening and the audience was gratified that late the trio gave

"The Barcarole" from "The Tales of Hoffmann." "The Lute Player" was very excellently sung by Mr. C. H. P. Hay who infused a fund of dramatic effect into the expressive little song. His

rendering of "So o' Mite" was also characterised by vigour, and the listeners were justifiably enthusiastic in their appreciations. As a pianist, Miss Elfrieda O'mund is well-known to Hongkong audience, and last evening her playing of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 13 was marked by delicacy of expression and mastery of execution. The same performer assisted in acting as accompanist to the instrumental items of the programme. Professor Golziles proved his ability as a violinist, his rendition of Massenet's "Thais" Meditation being very fine. It

should be mentioned that the orchestra also gave "Angels" by Massenet, this pretty composition being well interpreted. Miss Robinson acted as accompanist for the vocalists.

At the conclusion of the programme, Mr. T. F. Hough, A. S. P., expressed the thanks of the audience to the performers, and hoped that the concert would be the forerunner of many others.

POLICE RESERVE CONCERT.

Enjoyable Function Last Evening.

At the Headquarters Club of the Police Reserve Forces last night, a very enjoyable concert

was given, the proceeds going to

assist the finances of the Club.

The concert took place in the

reading room and every seat was

booked. The orchestra of the

Force, under Professor Gunzler,

opened the programme with the

selection "Maritana" by Wallace,

this being followed by

BELGIUM UNDER THE GERMAN.

Account of the Late General von Bissing's work.

A special correspondent of the New York Evening Post writes:—
I have received direct and personal information, from a member of the exiled Belgian Government at Havre, of the work accomplished for Germany—and for Belgium—by Governor-General von Bissing, who has just died. For two entire years and four months he exercised absolute power in the civil administration of Belgium. His peculiar efficiency is an object-lesson in every question which Germany has raised during this war. I may be allowed to say that this account is in full agreement with the testimony from reliable private sources which I have published from time to time during his exercise of office.

It is known that von Bissing was personally and by family and education the complete type of the Prussian junker and army officer. I am not aware that he ever propounded theories, but he was surely in practice a militarist in the extreme Prussian sense, and Pan-Germanist. He fought against France in the war of 1870, and during the siege of Paris was a captain on duty at the Palace of Saint Cloud when it was burned. The German official report persists in attributing that fire to French batteries at Mont-Valerien, which the German artillery had been unable to silence—but French military authorities have always declared this to be improbable, if not impossible. At the time, the English war correspondent, Russell, was shown about the devastated palace by Capt. von Bissing, who offered him a book from the French Emperor's library, picking it up from palace furniture lying about the lawn, and being packed up to send to Germany. The scene is worth noting as a precedent.

It will be remembered that von Bissing succeeded von der Goltz as Governor-General of "occupied" Belgium four months after the German invasion—that is, after the first acute mania of massacre and destruction had subsided. The people were still stricken with the fright which his predecessor had inspired. The new administration was to show what German authorities would do for the civil population of the country they had conquered. Von Bissing began by giving notice that he would follow in the steps of his predecessor. To foreign correspondents, and through the German press, he gave it to be understood that, by prudent and wise management, he would work for the economic revival of Belgium. To the manufacturers of Belgium, which had been perhaps the most prosperous manufacturing country in the world, he promised measures to aid them to export their products. The Allies at the same time expressed their willingness to allow and aid such exportation of Belgian products, which might have kept the country from utter disaster. Employers and workmen were alike interested in getting to work, in fulfillment of the new Governor-General's promises.

Belgian Industry Strangled.—From the start, von Bissing's measures strangled Belgian industry and threw workmen into compulsory idleness. An endless, unbroken series began of requisitions and seizures. Agricultural products necessary for the health and strength of the people; raw materials which were indispensable to manufacturers; goods, half-wrought and finished products; machines and tools and horses; everything which was in stock—and the very rails of tramways and railroads serving the working people—were taken away, and either sent to Germany or employed for the German army front. To the end, such was the execution of Governor-General von Bissing's promises to watch—for Belgians—over the use of Belgium's riches and industrial resources. It came to the point where nothing escaped the vigilance of an Administration which seemed to have for its special work to strip the country bare.

The new Governor-General began at once another

campaign, to compel Belgians who had taken refuge in other countries, to return to their homes. The penalty was to be a fine ten times the amount of the taxes which they paid on their property. And such fines were to be collected by seizing and selling the property itself. Several examples of this came under my observation in the first months of 1915. Here at Paris, under my own apartment, two aged Belgian women had found shelter with a relative. In answer to von Bissing's imperative summons, they were forced to exhaust their scant means, and, in wintry weather, to make the long, comfortless round through Switzerland and back through Germany, with countless vexations and delays, until they reached their desolate home in Brussels. Otherwise, it would have been sold away from them with all its contents and without redress.

Third Campaign Against People.—From the start, also, Governor-General von Bissing organized a third campaign against the people whom he was supposed to administer. This was a succession of war contributions, in addition to the ordinary taxes which he did not leave uncollected. Beginning with his first month in office, he assessed these war contributions to be paid by the Belgian people at 40,000,000 francs (\$8,000,000) monthly, and this levy was increased in November, 1916—two years later—to 50,000,000 francs. So enormous a sum, even considering the remains of riches in Belgium, which was perhaps the richest country in Europe relatively to its size, did not include the continual fines, ranging from tens of thousands to millions of francs which were imposed on cities and towns and the least communes for the slightest transgressions against German rules and regulations—or for any upsetting of German equanimity. As was said in the medical English of Dr. Johnson's dictionary, "Germany under this Administration has 'blooded' Belgium."

A fourth campaign of this farsighted administration—if indeed it really was his own mind, and not that of some one bigger or—was the attempt to Germanize Belgians from Walloon or French Belgians. A passing show of this effort to Germanize Belgium was the "Flemizing" in language and staff of the University of Ghent, which has floundered in the pan after ading to the gayety of the nations in a weary time. The movement has culminated in a supposed Flemish Council visiting Germany—and standing by, to the number of seven at the burial of the Governor-General who invented them.

To his fifth campaign Von Bissing worked up—or was worked up—gradually. It is the one for which he will be most remembered by the general public, judging first and foremost by feeling. It began with arrests and imprisonment of hundreds of civilians, guilty of no crime set down in any code of laws known to them. Among the most illustrious at the beginning was Madame Carton de Wiart, wife of the Belgian Minister. There were members of Parliament and city councils, great personages like Professors Fredericq and Pirenne, of the genuine University of Ghent, and little people, too numerous to mention—women as well as men, and sometimes children. Most of these were convoyed into German prisons and prison camps. There were also hundreds of executions—after trials never checked off by public knowledge. This campaign culminated for the world at large—and for all time—in the martial murder of Miss Cavell.

Deportation to Slavery.—A sixth campaign was to begin in the last year of Von Bissing's life. It is the one which still most occupies the world's mind and sympathies. It is the deportation to slavery and worse of tens of thousands of Belgian men and at the time of the uprising last year brought about further disaster to the fighting front. The orders in Dublin on June 20, excuse made is that they are some 500 of them carrying Sino-able-bodied and out of work, and Fein flags attacked residences of therefore as the Schwabische former soldiers over which Union Mercure expresses the German Jacks were dying. Windows man war gospel—they were smashed and police who ought to work for Germany. This came up were stoned. Eight same policy has been followed men and five women were out consistently and, if possible, arrested.

Sinn Feiners Riot.—The Sinn Feiners who have held several demonstrations since the release of the persons arrested to slavery and worse of tens of thousands of Belgian men and at the time of the uprising last year brought about further disaster to the fighting front. The orders in Dublin on June 20, excuse made is that they are some 500 of them carrying Sino-able-bodied and out of work, and Fein flags attacked residences of therefore as the Schwabische former soldiers over which Union Mercure expresses the German Jacks were dying. Windows man war gospel—they were smashed and police who ought to work for Germany. This came up were stoned. Eight same policy has been followed men and five women were out consistently and, if possible, arrested.

The new Governor-General began at once another

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

PURE MILK

An ideal summer beverage
and
the most nutritious food.

DAIRY FARM MILK
is
SAFE MILK.BRITISH PROPERTY IN
GERMANY.TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENTS.PUBLIC AUCTION.
Controversy Over Gas Works
in Berlin.

The Undersigned has received
instructions to sell by Public
Auction on
WEDNESDAY, the 15th.
August, 1917.

commencing at 10:30 a.m.
at his Sales Rooms, Duddell
Street.

A Large Quantity of Valuable
Household Furniture.
Comprising—

Tapestry covered drawing room suite, easy chairs, black wood tables flower stands, stools, teak writing tables, bookcase, engravings, ornaments, white lace curtains, carpet, rugs, electric table fans and lamps etc, etc.

The Lokalzeitung, which inquired of the authorities concerned regarding the matter, was informed that this English enterprise was one of the most important hostages of English capital in the hands of Germany. It was added that, while it was naturally not the intention of the Government to get the highest possible bid, on the other hand the Government did not consider it advantageous to sell the property below its value.

German capital, it was pointed out, was invested in Great Britain to a greater extent than British capital in Germany, and the Government therefore would pre-judge German interests in Great Britain by allowing an unreasonably cheap sale. From Great Britain no complaints had been received of improper treatment of German property, and therefore the German Government was endeavouring to exercise similar correctness. It was further stated that no decision had as yet been come to, as estimates from other quarters put a higher value on the property than the price offered by the two groups of bidders.

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Hongkong, 1st April, 1917.

E. V. D. Parr,
Superintendent.



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SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama		
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Sado Maru [Capt. Takano	[MON., 13th Aug., 12,500
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Sakano Maru [Capt. Cope	[SUN., 26th Aug., 16,000
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama	S'ang Maru [Capt. Soeda	[TUES., 17th Aug., 13,500
KOBE	Taisho Maru [Capt. Ogawa	[THURSDAY, 8,000
KOBE	Asahi Maru [Capt. Kosaka	[WEDNESDAY, 8,000

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TOYO MARU	22,000	16th Aug.
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Steamers	Tons.	Leave Hongkong
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MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO	Tean	10th Aug. at noon.
SHANGHAI	Yingchow	12th Aug. at d'light.
WWEI, C'FOO & TIENTSIN	Huichow	13th Aug. at noon.
SHANGHAI	Chenan	14th Aug. at 4 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Sinkiang	16th Aug. at 4 p.m.

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Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	To
Tilcaroen			20th Aug.	25th Aug. S'hai & Kobe
Tillwong			31st Aug.	
Tibodas			22nd Sept.	30th Sept. Kobe
Tjimaneek			22nd Sept.	28th Sept. Amoy & S'hai

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

GERMANY TROOPS MUTINY.

Amsterdam, Aug. 8.
A frontier report to the "Telegraaf" confirms the rumours of the mutiny of 300 German troops at Antwerp, who threw down their rifles when ordered to go to the Ypres front. They were quickly overpowered and taken to barracks hand-cuffed.

STOPPING PROFITEERING.

London, Aug. 7.
The Premier has informed the Executive of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain that inter-trading between members of the Produce Exchange has been prohibited, thereby stopping profiteering in wholesale markets.

ANOTHER GERMAN EXCUSE.

Madrid, Aug. 8.
In connection with Spanish fishing boat outrage, cabled last evening, Senior Dato has stated that the submarine Commander has explained that it was due to mistaken nationality. The Government is protesting energetically to Berlin. One of the wounded men has died.

ARRESTED IMPERIALISTS.

A Preliminary Hearing at Peking.

Preliminary hearings of the restoration case in which Chang Cheng-fang, former Secretary of State for Finance, Lei Chia-chang, former Secretary of State for War, and Feng Teh-ling, former Commander of the 28th Division in Fengtien were charged with having committed acts of sedition, were held on July 30. Chang Chen-fang, being a civil official, will be tried by the Supreme Court, where he is being kept, while the other two Imperialists will be tried by a Martial Court to be instituted by order of the Ministry of War after the preliminary hearings have been completed.

The proceedings at the preliminary hearings are kept secret, even members of the Supreme Court and the Ministry of War are not allowed to read them in view of the seriousness of the case and of the fact that the numerous influential friends of the criminals are doing their level best to rescue them. It is feared that Chang, Lei and Ling will hardly be able to escape the punishment which usually is meted out to the persons guilty of the charge of sedition.

Many telegrams in code have been discovered on the person of Feng Teh-ling, but the prosecutors have been unable to decipher them. Feng, after having had a hearty laugh, said that there were "thirty-nine kinds" of secret codes used by his accomplices in the transmission of messages in connection with the restoration plot, but he refused to enlighten the judicial officials on these secret codes saying that some of his secretaries had taken them away. Recently a search was made in the residence of Liang-Tun-yan and Chang Chen-fang in an effort to secure these secret codes, which would help a great deal in procuring evidence against the Imperialists.

Before Huang was appointed Vice-President, he had an interview with Chang Hsien, informing the latter personally that he could raise a loan of \$5,000,000 from a certain bank. After the failure of the restoration plot, Chang's wife and adopted son, an idiot, fled to Honan to request the sons of the late Yuan Shih-kai to intercede for Chang, and the 4th son of Yuan actually went with them to Panfu to see General Ni Shih-chung.

When pointed out that it would be impossible to interfere with the judicial affairs, Chang's son said "I tried several times to persuade my father not to take part in the restoration plot, but he refused to listen to me. I can't help; let Heaven and his own fortune do the rest." He returned at once to Peking and when he had an interview with his father, he asked him about his property and deposits in the banks. Chang was very angry and said

"As to the property and money, Mr. Huang knows how to dispose of them. You only care for my property and not my life, which is in imminent danger," without knowing that Huang had already run away with his money and property and everything upon which he could lay hands.

Finally a secretary came out and told the officers who escorted the car that as he was only a secretary, he could not take the responsibility for receiving the culprit. While waiting in the car, Chang was furious, and said "Why do you bring me here in the heat to wait for hours? Indeed, I cannot bear it."

Lei, Chang and Feng, are all great opium-smokers. Both Lei and Feng, who are now kept in the Ministry of War, are allowed to use the drug, but Chang is not allowed to do so in the Supreme Court, notwithstanding his strong complaints.

Misfortunes never come singly. Whilst Chang is spending a

WELSH TROOPS AT MESSINES.

Record of Gallant Work.

War Correspondent's Headquarters, June 21.—No troops have done sterling work with less fuss and notoriety than the Welshmen.

During last summer, before the Battle of the Somme, the bulk of the Welsh troops performed long and testing service, holding with obstinate courage, one of the most difficult parts of the line. When called to take part in the capture of the Albert-Bapaume Ridge, they showed the utmost stoutness, combined with great dash, in clearing the greater part of Mametz Wood, which was expected to be one of the most formidable obstacles to our advance in the whole of the Somme area. Since then they have again been at the old hammer-and-tongs job of holding the front line, doing work unostentatious but priceless, repelling raids, carrying out successful raids themselves, often subjected to heavy shelling and fierce local attacks, but always sturdy, vigilant, and competent.

Some of the Welsh troops were engaged in the Battle of Messines and did splendidly. It was a Welsh unit which on the day before the beginning of the battle did one of the most neatly executed and successful raids ever carried through on this front. Immediately after one of our heavy rehearsal bombardments, these Welshmen went over, in plain daylight, in the middle of the afternoon, and cleaned out the enemy trenches with almost incredible completeness and dispatch. They had only 10 casualties of all kinds themselves, and brought back 74 prisoners. It was more nearly like a real pincers than almost any minor operation of this war, and it was so merely, because it was so dashingly done.

In the great attack on June 7 the point where the Welshmen went over was what is known as "Nag's Head," owing to the shape of the German front line just there at Hollandschechelure Farm, before the Grand Bois, north-west of Wytschaete. Here, with some lesser ones, was exploded one of the biggest mines on the whole line. The Welshmen were so keen to get across that, starting the instant the signal was given, the front wave was actually within 50 yards of the mine when it went off, and showers of debris fell all over them. Through the murk and confusion they swept on, without losing direction, streaming round both sides of the mine craters, rejoining on the other side, and pouring on over the enemy's defences. In such cases you cannot go through a mine crater, because for some time after the explosion the fumes would kill you. Many of those who passed round the edges were partially "gassed" and made dizzy and sick, but they went on with the rest, and from then to the end of the day the only complaint that officers have of the men is that they were too keen, and would not wait for our barrage to move on sufficiently.

Certainly they were keen. One unit took 220 prisoners, with total casualties of 184. Another took 80 prisoners, and the whole division to which they belonged had total casualties of 70 less than the number of prisoners they took.

The front line had been pretty well-wrecked by the mine, and however many Germans may have been there before very few were left when the attack came, and there was little resistance. The next trenches, however, just in front of the Grand Bois were very strongly held, and many of the prisoners taken by the Welsh came from here, and here they left even more of the enemy dead. Then came the wood itself, which was fortified with innumerable dug-outs and machine-guns in the usual way. This was carried with sheer hard fighting with bomb and bayonet, and there is a picturesque story of a Lewis gunner who charged a machine gun post, firing his Lewis gun from the hip, and cleaned out the post, killing all eight members of the gun detachment.

Alice Memorial Hospital. The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Funds of the Hospitals:—Leng Yan Po, \$100; Lo Cho Shan, \$100; Ho Mun Shue, \$50; Wong Ja Nang, \$25; Tang Chi Ngong, \$25; Ya Yin Pak, \$25; Chow U. Ting, \$25; Li Yan Chan, \$25; French Bank Comptador, \$25.

Swiss Tobacco Tax. The Swiss National Council has adopted a Bill for the imposition of a tax on tobacco, the proceeds from which will serve to cover partially the interest on the mobilisation debt.

CONDEMNATION OF HERR HOFFMANN.

Dangers of Secret Diplomacy.

Berne, June 21.—The publication of Herr Hoffmann's message to Grimm and the leading article in the Times filled Switzerland with an intense feeling of alarm, which, as the facts have become more fully known, has given place to an equally intense feeling of indignation and shame.

The alarm was due to fear lest Switzerland's position in regard to supplies, already a matter of painful negotiations, should be imperilled; the indignation and shame were due to the discovery that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of this essentially democratic country, who had always professed to maintain Swiss neutrality at all costs, had been proved guilty of committing, of his own initiative and unknown to his colleagues, an obviously unnatural act of "secret diplomacy."

In the present state of world tension it is not surprising that this event, which is one of the most remarkable and deplorable in Swiss political history, should have produced widespread consternation. Fortunately, Switzerland has risen to the occasion. With Herr Hoffmann's admission of his error and resignation and the unanimous public repudiation of his action, the country seems to have settled the affair for itself.

With one or two unimportant exceptions, the entire Press unspuriously condemns Herr Hoffmann's incredible blunder. The best that can be said for him is the *Nachrichten's* suggestion that he was bounced into it by Grimm's request for information, and suffered from excess of zeal. Admission of his sincerity is almost as completely unanimous as was recognition of the necessity for his immediate departure from public life. It appears, indeed, that he did not await a public outcry before tendering his resignation.

The true explanation of the whole matter seems at present to be that Herr Hoffmann, who was President of the Swiss Confederation in 1914 and a man of great energy and self-will, had grown accustomed to think he could do everything himself without consulting his colleagues. Like many other patriotic Swiss, he was impressed by the injury to Swiss interests involved by the continuance of the war, and appears not to have realized the harm his rash act, however well-intentioned, would do to Switzerland in the eyes of the world. The impropriety of his proceeding thus without saying a word to his colleagues on the Federal Council is universally recognised and needs no comment.

Good Wages. A young man of 25, who appeared at the London Munitions Tribunal on a complaint of having lost time, was said to be in a position to earn over £8 a week.

CANTON NEWS.

Fear of Trouble Between Rival Troops.

Our Canton correspondent, writing under date of August 8, says:—

About sixty Parliamentary members have reported their arrival, and Dr. Sun Yat-sen has advanced \$5,000 to make preparation for the expenses involved.

The Tschun has ordered the Financial Department to advance \$10,000 to the Superintendent of the Coal Supply Bureau to purchase native coal from the Koo-kiang and Ying-tak districts for the use of the Northern Squadron.

It has been decided that the cruiser Houchen shall cruise along the coast near Swatow and that two gunboats shall patrol near Hainan.

Serious anxiety is shown by the public at the fact that wherever Yunnan troops are stationed, Kwangsi troops are sent to the same locality, and vice versa. A collision is expected at any moment, though the officers are trying their best to maintain discipline. Many well-to-do families have removed to Hongkong and Macao.

The river at Shantung has risen about twelve feet and unless the rise ceases it is feared that the dykes will give way.

GENERAL NEWS.

Belgian Militia.

Belgians born between July 1 and December 31, 1898, were called upon to enrol for the Militia before June 1, the entry into service being fixed for July 1.

Case Dismissed.

Before Mr. Dyer Hall, at the Police Court this afternoon, a Chinese youth was charged with stealing \$80 from the pockets of a Chinese cattle dealer, who was travelling on a tram car, on August 2. Mr. E. J. Grier appeared to defend. The complainant stated that he had been collecting accounts in the Central Market. As he was getting on to the car the defendant followed him. Suddenly defendant snatched the money from his pocket, and jumped off the car. Witness called out "Save life!" and the defendant was caught by a plain clothes policeman. After hearing further evidence, his Worship dismissed the case.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

BAND NOTICE NIGHT.

At the North Point Hotel (late Belle View) on SATURDAY NIGHT August 11th, from 5.30 P. M. until midnight.

also

At this Hotel on Saturday night, August 11th, at 9.15 P. M., will appear

TOM KEIG

THE ROPE KING.

AN EASTERN WIZARD

This marvellous illusionist has baffled and defeated the world with his wonderful and seemingly impossible feats.

He has challenged all comers to compete with or expose him in the following illusions:—The Coffin, The Trunk, The Manacle, and Rope Tricks etc., etc., etc.

COME AND SEE THE WORLD'S MARVELS.

All the equipment used in these feats was manufactured by well-known European and Chinese firms in Hongkong, and is open to Public inspection at any time.

I, Tom Keig, challenge the World in the several feats, The Coffin, Trunk, Ropes, Manacles, Straits Jackets, Body Belt, etc. I defy any Human Being drawing Breath to secure me, that I fail to extricate myself. This is a Genuine Challenge and I Bar Nobody, Especially Sailors, Police, Military Etc.

W. H. ELLERMAN,

Manager.

ALWAYS ASK FOR IT.



CAPSTAN
For Flavour. NAVY CUT For Quality.

IN MILD, MEDIUM & FULL STRENGTHS.

From All Tobacconists.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS ISSUED BY THE
BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. BLACK-HEAD & COMPANY, F. H. HORNKE, F. J. SCHWARZ-KOPF, E. H. THIEL and J. E. DANIELSON, in pursuance of an Order of the Hong Kong Government, to sell by Public Auction at 3 o'clock in the AFTERNOON.

FRIDAY
the 7th day of September
1917.

at his Auction Rooms, in
Duddell Street.

A QUANTITY OF PLANT
AND MACHINERY
formerly installed, or about to
be installed, in Blackhead's
Soap Works, Shaukiwan,

In One Lot.

The Plant and Machinery comprises:—A Steam Engine, Soap and Soda Steel Vats, complete with mixing equipment, Soap Cooling and other Tanks, A Paper cutting Machine, A Nailing Machine, A Handdrilling Machine, A Soap cutting Machine, A Soap Conveying Machine, A Hand Power Goods Lift, A Multibular Marine Type Boiler, A Quantity of Line Shafting, Belting and Wrought Iron Piping, and a Quantity of Cylinders, Vats and Fittings, never yet used.

The Factory itself and the buildings in connection with it will be sold at the same place and time.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be had from:

Messrs. DEACON, LOOKER,
DEACON & HARSTON,

1, Des Voeux Road, Central,
Solicitors for the Liquidator,
or from

MR. GEORGE P. LAMMERT,
The Auctioneer,
Hongkong, 7th August, 1917.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.
AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER
AND SURVEYOR.

NOTICES.

MASSAGE.
MR. HONDA.
Formerly of Tokyo Military Hospital
WILL VISIT PATIENTS' RESIDENCES
IF PREFERRED.
NO. 202, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

By order of the Mortgagor
MR. GEO. P. LAMMERT has
received instructions to sell
by Public Auction

ON

WEDNESDAY
the 15th day of August, 1917,
at 3 p.m. at his Sales Room,
Duddell Street, Victoria
Hongkong.

The following
Valuable Household Properties
situate at Yau Ma Tei in the
Dependency of Kowloon and
Colony of Hongkong viz:

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels
of ground situate at Yau Ma Tei
aforesaid and known and registered
in the Land Office respectively
as Kowloon Inland Lots Nos. 629, 630, 631, and 1111
together with all buildings erected
thereon respectively. Terms
75 years, 75 years, 75 years and
75 years respectively. Annual
Crown rents \$216.00, \$106.00,
\$106.00 and \$30.00 respectively.
Area 47,250 square feet, 23,100
square feet, 23,100 square feet and
2,250 square feet respectively.

For further Particulars and
Conditions of sale apply to:

JOHNSON STOKES &

MASTER

Prince's Buildings,
Ice House Street,
Hongkong,
Solicitors for the Mortgagor,
or to

GEO. P. LAMMERT,
The Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1917.

FOR SALE.

MOTOR CARS, MOTOR CARS
1917 Overland Touring Cars,
6 Cylinder, 7 Seats,
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Duddell Street,
Hongkong, 18th February, 1917.

Railwaymen's Union.
During the past year the mem-
bership of the National Union of
Railwaymen reached a total of
340,000 being an increase of
22,000.



Mitsui Busan Kedaga
Singapore

POST OFFICE.

IMPORT PROHIBITIONS.

The public are informed that the undeclared articles are prohibited from importation into the United Kingdom, either by letter post or by parcel post.

Gold manufactured or unmanufactured, including gold coins and articles consisting partly of or containing gold; All manufactures of Silver other than silver watches and silver watch cases; Jewellery of any description.

Letters and parcels containing such articles cannot therefore be accepted for transmission by the Post Office.

FRENCH PARCEL REGULATIONS.

The Public are informed that the new regulations adopted by the French Customs insist that senders of parcels addressed to France, Corsica and Algeria must fill in the columns of the regular Customs Declaration particularly and exactly, omitting none of the headings comprised therein.

It is further absolutely necessary to show in the aforesaid declaration (1) The full name and address of the addressee (2) A statement as to whether the contents are intended for State supplies or not.

Particulars of outgoing and incoming Mails will not be advertised in future. The Post Office will forward all correspondence posted by the fastest routes.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Siberia and Mongolia cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Uninsured parcels for the United Kingdom will in future be forwarded from Hongkong in bags and the Public are therefore advised to pack such parcels very carefully.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILS
OUTWARD.

Tai O.—Week days, 5 p.m.
Tai Po.—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 9.30 a.m.
Cheung Chow.—Week days, 2 p.m.
Shatin, Shau and Sheungshui.—
Week days, 3 p.m.
Aberdeen, Antu, Ping Shan, Sai Kung,
Santo and Stanley.—Week days, 4.30 p.m.
Canton, 7.30 a.m.; Registration 3 p.m.;
Leave 6 p.m.; Sundays, 6 p.m.
Macau.—Weekdays, 7.15 a.m., 1.30 p.m.;
Sundays, 9 a.m.
Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except
Saturdays; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Nam Yau and Sammel.—Week days,
5 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Shimshun.—Week days, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.;
Sundays, 9 a.m.

C. W. JEFFRIES, Chief Assistant,
Hongkong Observatory, Aug. 9, 1917.

1 Barometer, reduced to 32 degrees

Fahrenheit on the level of the sea in
inches, tenths and hundredths.

2 Temperature, in the shade, in degrees

Fahrenheit.

3 Humidity, in percentage of saturation
of the air saturated with moisture being 100.

4 Direction of Wind, to two points.

5 Force of Wind, according to Beaufort
Scale.

State of Weather, a blue sky, a de-
stated cloud, a drizzling rain, fog, a
gloomy, hazy, lightning, overcast, p-
recipitating showers, a squally, r-rain, snow,
thunder, v visibility, w dew wet.

ASAHI BEER.

FROM SHEUNGWAN WESTERN
BRANCH P.O.

Macao.—Weekdays, 7.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m.;

Sundays, 8.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m.,
1.30 p.m.

Canton.—Weekdays, 7.30 a.m., 9.30 p.m.;

Sundays, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m.,
9.30 p.m.

Tai Ping Tong.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.;

Sundays, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.

Shik Kai.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.; Sun-
days, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.

Kwagmoon.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sun-
days, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Kumchuk.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sun-
days, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Kaukong.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except
Saturdays; Sundays, 6 p.m.; Holidays,

6 p.m.

A Mate's Posing.

Commander Mills, Naval
Provost Marshal, gave evidence
at Bow-street of the arrest of
William Victor Bishop, twenty-
six, described as a ship's mate,
of Lancaster Gate, Paddington.
Bishop said the witness was
wearing the uniform of a post
captain of the Royal Naval
Reserve and also the Victoria
Cross decoration, to which he
was not entitled. A detective
added that after being charged,
Bishop admitted that he had
never been in the Navy nor won
the V.C. He then offered to give
assistance in detecting others
who were committing the same
offence. Prisoner.—That is not
exactly what I said. I said there
were two men going about in
uniform at the present time who
had no right to do so, and to
whom I had paid money to get
me a commission in the Navy.
A second was ordered, bail being
refused.

MESSRS. BUTTERFIELD &
SWIRE have this day
been appointed General Agents
of the above Company for Fire
Insurance for Hongkong and
China.

By order of the Board of
Directors,

C. H. P. HAY,

per pro. General Manager,

Hongkong, 8th August, 1917.

WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS
ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW

District Forecast.

E.S.E. winds moderate; fair.

1 Hongkong to Gap Rock

The same

2 Formosa Channel

The same as No. 1

3 South coast of China be-

tween H.K. and Lantau

The same as No. 1

4 South coast of China be-

tween H.K. and Hainan

The same as No. 1

China Coast Meteorological Register,

August 9, a.m.

Station Hour Barometer Temperature Humidity Force Weather

Vostock 6a 29.71 71 se 2f

Nemuro 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Hakodate 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Tokio 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Kochi 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Nagasaki 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Regina 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Osaka 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Shimoda 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Enoshima 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Yokohama 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Chiba 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Asahikawa 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Ushuaia 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Yokosuka 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Wakayama 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

Yokohama 5a 29.70 71 se 2f

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Yokosuka 5a 29.70 71 se 2f</